



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
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MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM Ms. June Teisan, 2007–2008 Michigan Teacher of the Year

SUBJECT: Teacher of the Year Report

Quick Update on Dallas: The national conference in late January offered a unique and exciting opportunity . . . the first meeting of the 2008 Teachers of the Year! Sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers and ING, all 56 members of the "Class of 2008" were able to meet and engage in amazing conversations about our shared passion for excellence education. Various speakers provided training in technology, discussed tips for optimal media relations, offered insights to engage in legislative processes, and challenged us to continue to advocate for the best educational opportunities for children in our states and in our nation. MEEMIC Insurance Company provided the \$450 registration fee for this conference.

In the Classroom

As 7th grade students continue their RocketMath! projects - building lunar plant growth chambers, testing aerospace concepts with mini explorations in math and science classes - our curriculum moves forward to investigate geology, hydrology, and meteorology. Students are able to take what has been learned about our neighboring planets during our astronomy studies and connect these concepts to our Earth, a planet uniquely suited for sustaining life.

On the Road

Early March is very busy with various speaking opportunities and service commitments outside of the classroom.

- I am a volunteer for MACUL's Conference in Grand Rapids on March 6. The Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning has generously provided a free one-year membership and conference registration fees for the Michigan Teacher of the Year, so I wanted to participate in the conference programming as a volunteer.
- I am presenting "Art-Full Science" at the Michigan Science Teachers Association annual conference in Lansing on March 7. This breakout session highlights lessons I have designed that integrate arts into the science curriculum to harness student creativity and deepen understanding of complex science concepts.
- I will be in Washington, D.C. March 8-11 participating in the interview and selection process for the National Teacher of the Year 2008.

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808 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324